

Response to Official Action

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Please amend the claims to read as indicated in the following list of claims:

1. [Previously presented] A method of printing at least one print job in a computer-based printer system, the system comprising at least one printer and at least one computer connected to said at least one printer, wherein the at least one printer has a plurality of different printing configurations at least one of which is manually configurable and the at least one computer is capable of generating said at least one print job, said at least one print job having corresponding printing requirements, each printing configuration being capable of satisfying one or more printing requirements, the method comprising the steps of using the printing system to:
  - i) create one or more print jobs;
  - ii) determine whether or not the print job or each print job can be printed using said at least one printer by comparing the printing requirements of the print job or each print job and the current printing configurations of the at least one printer;
  - iii) when one or more of the print jobs cannot be printed using said at least one printer on the basis of said plurality of different printing configurations, automatically determining at least one reconfiguration of the printer configuration(s) that would be capable of satisfying the printing requirement(s) of said one or more print job(s); and
  - iv) performing such a reconfiguration of the printer configuration automatically or providing information to enable such a reconfiguration to be carried out manually.

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2. [Previously presented] A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step iv) comprises determining when said reconfiguration would require manual reconfiguration of said one or more printer(s) by a user of the printing system, and if so using the printing system to generate and present to said user instructions for manually reconfiguring said one or more printer(s) prior to printing of the print one or more job(s) by the printing system.

3. [Currently amended] A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the method involves prior to step iv) the steps of:

v) calculating an economic cost for effecting each of a plurality of possible reconfigurations for which the printer configuration(s) would be capable of satisfying the printing ~~requirement(s)~~ requirement(s) of said one or more print job(s); and

vi) selecting according to the calculated economic costs one or more preferred reconfigurations of said one or more printer(s) for which reconfiguration instructions will be presented to said user.

4. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 3, in which there are a plurality of preferred reconfigurations, and the reconfiguration information presented to said user includes the corresponding economic cost for each preferred configuration.

5. [Previously presented] A method as claimed in claim 1, in which there are a plurality of different preferred reconfigurations which would involve both manual configuration by the user and automatic configuration by the printing system.

6. [Previously presented] A method as claimed in claim 1, in which there are a plurality of different preferred

reconfigurations, and prior to step iv) these preferred configurations are presented to user of the printing system so that the user can select a particular reconfiguration, for which reconfiguration instructions are then presented in step iv).

7. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 2, in which a computer includes a user display, and said presentation of instructions includes the display of reconfiguration instructions on the user display.

8. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 2, in which said presentation of instructions includes the printing of reconfiguration instructions on a printer.

9. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 8, in which a computer includes a user display, in which said presentation of instructions includes a message displayed on the user display informing the user that reconfiguration instructions are to be printed on said printer.

10. [Currently amended] A method as claimed in claim 1, in which after reconfiguration of the printer(s), the print job is assigned to more than one printer, and the printing system presents to a user of the printing system instructions for any or all of locating, assembling, collating, binding, or otherwise combining material printed from the printers.

11. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 10, in which the print job has a plurality of different parts, each part having different printing requirements, and the print job is split according to those different requirements.

12. [Previously presented] A computer-based printing system, the printing system comprising at least one printer and at least one computer connected to said printer(s), the

or each printer having a plurality of different printing configurations at least one of which is manually configurable and the or each computer being capable of generating at least one print job, said print job(s) having corresponding printing requirements, each printing configuration being capable of satisfying one or more printing requirements, wherein the printing system is arranged to:

determine whether or not each print job can be printed using said printer(s) by comparing the printing requirements of the or each print job and the current printing configurations of the printer(s); and

when one or more of the print jobs cannot be printed using said printer(s) on the basis of said current printing configuration, to determine automatically at least one reconfiguration of the printer configuration(s) that would be capable of satisfying the printing requirement(s) of said print job(s); and when said reconfiguration would require manual reconfiguration of said printer(s) by a user of the printing system, then use the printing system to generate and present to said user instructions for manually reconfiguring said printer(s) prior to printing of the print job(s) by the printing system.

13. [Currently amended] A [[a]] computer system programmed for providing print job information to printers connected to the computer system by a computer network, wherein one or more processors of the computer system are programmed to:

create a print job;

determine whether or not the print job can be printed using one or more printers in communication with the

computer system by comparing the printing requirements of the print job and the current printing configurations of the one or more printers;

when the print job cannot be printed using the one or more printers in their current printing configuration, automatically determine at least one reconfiguration of the one or more printers that would be capable of satisfying the printing requirements of said print job; and ~~perform such an automatic reconfiguration of the one or more printers or~~ providing information to enable such a reconfiguration to be carried out by another.

14. [Previously presented] Computer readable media having stored thereon a computer program containing code adapted to program one or more processors of a computer system to:

obtain current printing configurations of one or more printers in communication with the computer system;

determine whether or not a print job can be printed using such one or more printers by comparing the printing requirements of the print job and the current printing configuration of the one or more printers;

when the print job cannot be printed using the one or more printers in their current printing configuration, automatically determine at least one reconfiguration of the one or more printers that would be capable of satisfying the printing requirements of the print job; and perform such a reconfiguration of the one or more printers when such reconfiguration can be done automatically and or providing information to enable such a reconfiguration to be carried out by another when such reconfiguration cannot be done automatically.

15. [cancelled]

16. [cancelled]
17. [cancelled]
18. [Previously presented] A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the at least one reconfiguration of the printer configuration(s) capable of satisfying the printing requirement(s) of said print job(s) is determined by automatically analyzing a set of plausible reconfigurations.
19. [Previously presented] A method as claimed in claim 18 wherein the set of plausible reconfigurations is determined by iterating through features associated with said one or more printers.
20. [Previously presented] A computer-based printing system as claimed in claim 12 wherein the at least one reconfiguration of the printer configuration(s) capable of satisfying the printing requirement(s) of said print job(s) is determined by automatically analyzing a set of plausible reconfigurations.
21. [Previously presented] A computer-based printing system 20 wherein the set of plausible reconfigurations is determined by iterating through features associated with said one or more printers.
22. [Previously presented] A computer system as claimed in claim 13 wherein the at least one reconfiguration of the printer configuration(s) capable of satisfying the printing requirement(s) of said print job(s) is determined by automatically analyzing a set of plausible reconfigurations.

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23. [Previously presented] A computer system 22 wherein the set of plausible reconfigurations is determined by iterating through features associated with said one or more printers.